



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/772,499	02/05/2004	Maung W. Han	ALPINE.045AUS	5663
7590 06/15/2007 MURAMATSU & ASSOCIATES Suite 310 114 Pacifica Irvine, CA 92618			EXAMINER TRAN, DALENA	
			ART UNIT 3661	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 06/15/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****U.S. Patent and Trademark Office**

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
10772499	2/5/04	HAN, MAUNG W.	ALPINE.045AUS

MURAMATSU & ASSOCIATES
Suite 310
114 Pacifica
Irvine, CA 92618

EXAMINER

Dalena Tran

ART UNIT	PAPER
3661	20070608

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/772,499

Applicant(s)

HAN, MAUNG W.

Examiner

Dalena Tran

Art Unit

3661

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 March 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-17 and 19-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,8-12,16,17 and 23-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-7,13-15,19-22,28-30 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant(s)

1. This office action is responsive to the amendment filed on 3/21/07. As per request, claims 1, 6, 11, 13, 16, 21, 26, and 28 have been amended. Claims 3, and 18 have been cancelled. Claims 1-2, 4-17, and 19-30 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-2, 8, 10, 12, 16-17, 23, 25, and 27, are rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Campbell (7076505) in view of Yokota (US 2002/0065605 A1).

As per claim 1, Campbell discloses a display method for a navigation system for searching and displaying objects clustered within a search area, comprising the following steps of: defining a size and shape of a search template for searching objects in the search area (see columns 12-13, lines 18-56); scanning the search template on the search area by displacing its position by a predetermined increment (see columns 14-15, lines 24-60; and columns 30-32, lines 43-36), and wherein predetermined increment for scanning the search template is smaller than the size of the search template so that an area on the search area covered by the search template is overlapped by consecutive increments of displacement position (see column 20, lines 17-45; and columns 30-32, lines 43-36). Campbell does not disclose counting and recording a number of objects. However, Yokota discloses counting and recording a number of objects on

Art Unit: 3661

the search area within the search template at every increment of displacement position, thereby creating an object distribution matrix (see [0030-0037]); applying a cluster search algorithm to the object distribution matrix, thereby detecting distribution of clusters of the objects in the search area (see [0038-0042]); and displaying the clusters of the objects in the search area by a predetermined display method (see [0043-0048]). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teach of Campbell by combining counting and recording a number of objects for keep track the total number of objects in the navigation search area.

As per claim 2, Campbell discloses objects are points of interest of a specified type within the search area (see column 16, lines 42-67).

As per claim 8, Campbell discloses step of displaying the clusters of the objects in the search area includes a step of listing the clusters of objects in an order of cluster size where the cluster size is a number of the objects in a small portion in the search area (see columns 19-20, lines 40-45).

As per claim 10, Campbell discloses step of displaying the clusters of the objects in the search area includes a step of listing names of the objects within a specified cluster thereby allowing the user to select one of the objects (see columns 26-27, lines 43-55).

As per claim 12, Campbell does not disclose map image. However, Yokota discloses step of displaying the clusters of the objects in the search area includes a step of displaying a map image showing distribution of the objects within a selected cluster (see [0043-0048]). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to

Art Unit: 3661

modify the teach of Campbell by combining map image for displaying vehicle position corresponds to display POI.

Claims 16-17, 23, 25, and 27 are apparatus claims corresponding to method claims 1-2, 8, 10, and 12 above. Therefore, they are rejected for the same rationales set forth as above.

4. Claims 9, 11, 24, and 26, are rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Campbell (7076505), and Yokota (US 2002/0065605 A1) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Hanon et al. (US 2003/0231208 A1).

As per claim 9, Campbell, and Yokota do not disclose listing the clusters of objects in an order of distance. However, Hanon et al. disclose step of displaying the clusters of the objects in the search area includes a step of listing the clusters of objects in an order of distance from a current user position (see [0114-0120]). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teach of Campbell, and Yokota by combining listing the clusters of objects in an order of distance for the user of planning a POI to select on the travel route.

As per claim 11, Hanon et al. disclose listing the names in an order of distance from an object at a center of the selected cluster or an alphabetical order of the names of the objects (see [0094-0097]; and [0104-0110]).

Claims 24, and 26 are apparatus claims corresponding to method claims 1-2, 8, 9, and 11 above. Therefore, they are rejected for the same rationales set forth as above.

5. Claims 4-7, 13-15, 19-22, and 28-30, are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Art Unit: 3661

Remarks

6. Applicant's amendment filed on 3/21/07 has been considered. Upon updated search, the allowance of claims 3, and 18 in the last office action is withdrawn. The updated of the rejection for claim 1 as in item 3 above. There are no new reference.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dalena Tran whose telephone number is 571-272-6968. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:30 AM-4:00 PM), off every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Black can be reached on 571-272-6956. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Patent Examiner
Dalena Tran



June 8, 2007